Other Funding Sources

The following is a partial list of potential funding sources available for greenspace acquisition and development.

Foundations

Foundations and non-profits such as the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, the PATH Foundation, the Trust for Public Land, The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, Piedmont Park Conservancy, Freedom Park Conservancy, Olmstead Linear Park Alliance, the Kodak American Greenways Fund, and Park Pride may provide funding for property acquisitions and development associated with specific projects.

Park Improvement Fund

The Department of Parks & Recreation is appropriated monies from the Park Improvement Fund on an annual basis to fund park capital improvements. Annual funding is approximately \$6,770,000. Some of these funds could be used to fund passive recreation improvements.

Donations

A mechanism to screen and accept donations of conservation areas is currently being developed. Donations could take the form of fee simple transfers or conservation easements.

Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR)

The Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program was established in November 1978 by Public Law 95-625, authorizing \$725 million to provide matching grants and technical assistance to economically distressed urban communities. The purpose of the program was to provide direct Federal assistance to urban localities for rehabilitation of critically needed recreation facilities. The law also encouraged systematic local planning and commitment to continuing operation and maintenance of recreation programs, sites, and facilities. Only cities and urban counties meeting established criteria are eligible for assistance. The City of Atlanta Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs administers this program. Recent grant awards have helped improve the Martin Luther King, Jr. Natatorium and the South Bend Park gym.

Land and Water Conservation Funds

Congress voted to allocate money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to every state in the year 2000. The bulk of the fund will be used to acquire land inside national parks, forests and other publicly-owned areas. Another portion will be earmarked for state and local governments to buy land with high passive recreational and natural value.

Transportation Enhancement Monies

Transportation Enhancement monies are available annually on a competitive basis from the Georgia Department of Transportation. Transportation Enhancement monies are being used for trails, associated landscaping, and property acquisition, and activities that can continue in future grant cycles.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

CDBGs provide housing, improve living conditions, and expand economic opportunities, principally for Atlanta residents with low- and moderate- income, with priority given to persons at 80% or less of the area median income. Eligible activities include housing, economic development, job training, social services, public improvements and park improvements. Some of these funds could be used to fund passive recreation park improvements. This program is administered in the Department of Planning and Community Development.

Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA)

CARA was approved by Congress in the fall of 2000. Competitive grants will be available through the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Georgia DOT's Wetland Mitigation Banking Program

The Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) will spend wetland mitigation banking money to restore unstable stream reaches and wetland areas. Selected properties will be purchased and held as conservation areas by Georgia DOT.